

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6852

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1537

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION BETWEEN SYRIAN AMBASSADOR AND GOVERNOR SCRANTON
ON UNDOF EXTENSION

1. GOVERNOR SCRANTON CALLED ON SYRIAN AMBASSADOR ALLAF APRIL 12
IN ALLAF'S CAPACITY AS ASIAN GROUP CHAIRMAN. MOST INTERESTING
PART OF DISCUSSION RELATED TO RENEWAL OF UNDOF MANDATE, DURING
WHICH IT SEEMED APPARENT THAT ALLAF HAD MANY IDEAS ON THE SUBJECT
BUT NO INSTRUCTIONS.

2. FOLLOWING FAMILIAR RATIONALE AS TO WHY ASAD WOULD INSIST ON
"SIGNS OF PROGRESS" BEFORE AGREEING TO EXTEND UNDOF, ALLAF LISTED
THREE AREAS IN WHICH HE THOUGHT SUCH PROGRESS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.
THESE WERE:(A) SOME KIND OF UN ENDORSEMENT OF PALESTINE
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS (HE REMARKED THAT A POSITIVE
US STATEMENT ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S WORK WOULD BE HELPFUL), (B)
SERIOUS INVOLVEMENT BY THE SYG IN THE SEARCH FOR A SE-
TTLEMENT THROUGH HIS PROPOSED CONTACT GROUP, AND (C) MOVEMENT
TOWARD DRAWING THE PLO INTO THENEGOTIATING PROCESS AND/
OR INITIATION OF U.S. CONTACT WITH THE PLO. SCRANTON
STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF A SIMPLE, QUICK EXTENSION, NOTING
THAT BEST WAY TO MAKE HEADWAY ON ISSUES OF SUBSTANCE WAS
TO KEEP THEM SEPARATE FROM RENEWAL OF MANDATE.

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3. COMMENT: WHILE ALLAF SEEMED UNSURE HOW PALESTINE
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS COULD BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON UNDOF
EXTENSION, HE EVIDENTLY HAS NOT ABANDONED THIS OPTION. AT
SAME TIME, WE HEAR REPORTS FROM PALESTINE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
THAT PLO MAY BE RELUCTANT TO BE LAUNCHING PAD FOR ANOTHER
SYRIAN INITIATIVE.
SCRANTON

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